

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 A-01 OPR-02 SY-10 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06

SIL-01 NIC-01 NEA-11 ACDA-19 OMB-01 OC-06 CCO-00

FMC-04 USPS-02 DRC-01 /194 W
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R 121710Z FEB 74

FM USMISSION BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2970

AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN

AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF

AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

AMCONSUL HAMBURG

AMCONSUL MUNICH

AMCONSUL STUTTGART

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO

USCINCEUR FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAFE FOR POLAD AND OPS

CINCUSAREUR FOR POLAD OPS AEAGG OCO

USELMLO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 0275

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PLAB,WB

SUBJECT: STRIKE SITUATION IN BERLIN

REF: BERLIN 267

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1. THE 32,000 STRIKING WORKERS AND SALARIED EMPLOYEES (E.G. PUBLIC TRANSPORT WORKERS, REFUSE COLLECTORS, CITY SANITATION WORKERS, POSTAL AND SOME SENAT EMPLOYEES) WERE JOINED FEBRUARY 12 BY BERLIN PORT AND STORAGE WORKERS, AS WELL AS EMPLOYEES OF WATER, SEWAGE AND GAS WORKS. JANITORIAL HELP AND FIREMEN AT SOME SCHOOLS IN BERLIN BOROUGH OF NEWKOELLN ALSO WENT ON STRIKE. SENAT HAS AGREEMENT WITH WATER, SEWAGE AND GAS WORKERS THAT NORMAL SERVICE WILL BE MAINTAINED FOR EIGHT DAYS. IF STRIKE NOT SETTLED BY THEN, NEW AGREEMENT WILL HAVE TO BE NEGOTIATED. STRIKE OF POST AND TELEGRAPH WORKERS WILL CONTINUE AND SHOULD STRIKE LAST BEYOND TOMORROW, IT MAY BE EXPANDED TO SUCH SERVICE AS LONG-DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALLS REQUIRING OPERATORS.

2. BERLIN PUBLIC SERVICE AND TRANSPORT WORKERS (OETV) INFORMED MISSION FEBRUARY 12 IT HAD RECEIVED ORDERS FROM HEADQUARTERS IN STUTTGART THAT STRIKE WILL BE CONTINUED BEYOND THE ORIGINAL 48-HOUR LIMIT (I.E. MIDNIGHT FEBRUARY 12), BUT THAT THERE WILL BE NO ESCALATION IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE. EAST GERMAN-OPERATED S-BAHN WORK STOPPAGE IN THE WESTERN SECTORS CONTINUES.

3. SENAT CHANCELLERY DIRECTOR PETER HERZ TOLD MISSION OFFICER FEBRUARY 12 THAT HE BELIEVED STRIKES WOULD BE SETTLED IF EMPLOYERS OFFERED MORE THAN 11 PERCENT WITH A 160 DM MINIMUM FOR LOW INCOME GROUPS (LATTER WOULD REPRESENT 12-1/2 PERCENT INCREASE). SHOULD OFFER BE BELOW 11 PERCENT, HERZ FEELS STRIKE WILL BE CONTINUED FOR PROLONGED PERIOD.

4. USCOB CONCURS.KLEIN

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